

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 Claim 1 (currently amended): A photographing device
2 provided with a dust removing mechanism comprising:
3 a photographing optical system which forms
4 an optical image of an object;
5 a photoelectric conversion element which converts
6 the optical image into an electric signal;
7 an optical element arranged between the
8 photographing optical system and the photoelectric
9 conversion element in such a manner as to seal the
10 photoelectric conversion element;
11 a piezoelectric element provided at a peripheral
12 portion of the optical element;
13 a drive circuit which supplies a ~~[[period]]~~ periodic
14 drive signal to the piezoelectric element to vibrate the
15 piezoelectric element, thereby vibrating the optical
16 element; and
17 a control circuit which changes a frequency of the
18 periodic drive signal ~~[[to a plurality of frequencies~~
19 ~~close to two or more resonance frequencies different in~~
20 ~~order from each other]]~~, to thereby cause the optical
21 element to be vibrated at a ~~[[the]]~~ plurality of
22 frequencies that are close to at least two resonance
23 frequencies different in order and ~~[[being]]~~ successively
24 applied.

1 Claim 2 (currently amended): The photographing device
2 according to claim 1, wherein the control circuit
3 controls the frequency of the ~~[[period]]~~ periodic drive
4 signal to vibrate the optical element first at a

5 frequency close to a low-order resonance frequency for a
6 predetermined time and then at another frequency close to
7 a high-order resonance frequency for another
8 predetermined time.

Claims 3-12 (canceled)

1 Claim 13 (new): The photographing device according to
2 claim 1, further comprising an optical low-pass filter
3 arranged in front of the photoelectric conversion
4 element, wherein the optical element is arranged to seal
5 the optical low-pass filter in cooperation with the
6 photoelectric conversion element.

1 Claim 14 (new): A photographing device provided with a
2 dust removing mechanism comprising:
3 a photoelectric conversion element which converts an
4 optical image of an object to an electric signal;
5 an optical element arranged with a predetermined
6 distance from the photoelectric conversion element;
7 a piezoelectric element provided at a peripheral
8 portion of the optical element;
9 a drive circuit which supplies a periodic drive
10 signal to the piezoelectric element to vibrate the
11 piezoelectric element, thereby vibrating the optical
12 element; and
13 a control circuit which changes a frequency of the
14 periodic drive signal, to thereby cause the optical
15 element to be vibrated at a plurality of frequencies
16 close to at least two resonance frequencies different in
17 order and successively applied.